

Attorney's Docket 081289-0284781

OIP Client Reference:

MAR 09 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:  
TIMOTHY HOVANEC ET AL.

Confirmation Number: 6075

Application No.: 10/659,980

Group Art Unit: 1656

Filed: September 10, 2003

Examiner: David J. Steadman

## For: METHOD FOR DETECTING AMMONIA-OXIDIZING BACTERIA

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT/RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith is an amendment/response for this application.

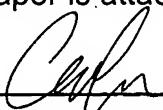
## FEES

The fee for claims and extension of time (37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17) has been calculated as shown below:

## FEE PAYMENT

Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$0.00 to Deposit Account No. 161805. Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment in the manner authorized above. A duplicate of this paper is attached.

Date: 3/7/06  
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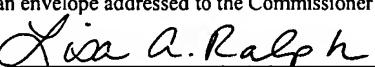
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### CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8 and/or 1.10\*

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Date: March 7, 2006

  
Signature  
LISA A. RALPH  
(type or print name of person certifying)

\* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(j). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.



PATENT  
81289-284781

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: )  
TIMOTHY A. HOVANEC )  
Serial No.: 10/659,980 )  
Filed: September 10, 2003 )  
For: METHOD FOR DETECTING AMMONIA- )  
OXIDIZING BACTERIA )

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Art Unit: 1656  
Examiner: DAVID J. STEADMAN

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**AMENDMENT AND PROVISIONAL ELECTION IN RESPONSE  
TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 17, 2006, in connection with the above-identified application, this response to which is timely filed, please consider and enter the following remarks:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims:** reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.